

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OIC-02 MMS-01 EB-07 AID-05 AF-06 ARA-06

EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-09 RSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 SCCT-01 ACDA-05 SR-02 ORM-01 /119 W

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P R 041050Z FEB 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 406

INFO USUN NEW YORK 1259

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ECOSOC, SHUM

SUBJ: HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: OBSERVER REPRESENTATIVES

AT OPENING MEETING 31ST SESSION HRC, AFTER OFFICERS ELECTED AND AFTER COMMISSION HAD DECIDED TO PUT OFF ADOPTION OF AGENDA TO FOLLOWING MEETING, REPRESENTATIVE OF OAU ANNOUNCED THAT PURSUANT TO GA RESOLUTION 3280 (XXIX) NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS (NLMS) RECOGNIZED BY OAU WOULD BE PRESENT AS OBSERVERS. HE INDICATED THE FOLLOWING NLMS TO BE REPRESENTED: AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS, PAN AFRICAN CONGRESS, SOUTHWEST AFRICAN PEOPLES'S ORGANIZATION OF NAMIBIA, AND THE AFRICAN NATIONAL COUNCIL OF ZIMBABWE. REPRESENTATIVE OF LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES REFERRED TO GA RESOLUTION 3237 (XXIX) AND REQUESTED THAT HRC ACCEPT REPRESENTATION OF PLO TO OBSERVE 31ST SESSION. IN SUCCEEDING DEBATE OAU REQUEST STRONGLY SUPPORTED BY ZAIRE AND SENEGAL WHO ARGUED THAT HRC HAD NO OPTION BUT TO ACCORD OBSERVER STATUS TO NLMS RECOGNIZED BY OAU SINCE OBSERVER PARTICIPATION HAD BEEN GRANTED BY GA IN RESOLUTION 3280. PLO REPRESENTATION STRONGLY SUPPORTED BY EGYPT WHO ARGUED THAT GA RESOLUTION 3237 SHOULD BE INTERPRETED AS HAVING ESTABLISHED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RIGHT OF PLO TO PARTICIPATE AT HRC SESSION AS OBSERVER.

UKREP, REFERRING TO DIFFERENCE IN PHRASEOLOGY BETWEEN GA RESOLUTIONS 3237 AND 3280 REQUESTED TIME TO STUDY SITUATION FURTHER AND SUGGESTED MATTER BE PUT OFF UNTIL NEXT MEETING. THIS SUGGESTION OPPOSED BY ZAIRE, SENEGAL, YUGOSLAVIA, EGYPT, PANAMA AND USSR, WITH ITALY, NETHERLANDS AND FRANCE SUPPORTING MOVE FOR POSTPONEMENT.

USREP (HOFFMAN) UNDERLINED NECESSITY TO OBSERVE TERMS OF GA RESOLUTIONS INVOLVED AND STRESSED DANGERS IN PRECEDENTS WHICH WOULD BE SET IF HRC EXCEEDED ITS POWERS BY IGNORING RULES LAID DOWN BY SUPERIOR BODIES. HE NOTED THAT US POSITION ON GA RESOLUTION 3237 WAS WELL KNOWN AND STATED US WOULD OPPOSE OBSERVER STATUS FOR PLO.

CHAIRMAN (ALLANA) NOTING LENGTHY LIST OF SPEAKERS REMAINING TO BE HEARD SUGGESTED THAT BECAUSE OF LATENESS OF HOUR THE ISSUE BE PUT OFF UNTIL FOLLOWING DAY. THIS PROPOSAL STRONGLY OBJECTED TO BY PROPONENTS OF OAU AND LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES PROPOSALS, WITH SENEGAL MOVING CLOTURE OF DEBATE. THIS MOTION ADOPTED 20-0-7. SENEGAL THEN MOVED THAT ALL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS PROPOSED AS OBSERVERS BE ACCEPTED BY HRC. USREP HOFFMAN RECALLED THAT TWO SEPARATE PROPOSALS HAD BEEN MADE BASED UPON TWO SEPARATE GA RESOLUTIONS AND HE PROPOSED THAT SEPARATE VOTES SHOULD BE TAKEN ON OAU AND LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES PROPOSALS. THIS SUGGESTION ACCEPTED BY CHAIRMAN. VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:

TO AGREE TO OBSERVER STATUS FOR NLMS RECOGNIZED BY OAU-  
24(US,NETHERLANDS,ITALY)-0-3(FRANCE,UK,FRG). VOTE ON  
PLO--23-1(US)-5(FRANCE,NETHERLANDS,ITALY,FRG,UK).

DURING PRECEDING DEBATE AUSTRIAN DELEGATE RAISED QUESTION OF PROCEDURES WHICH WOULD BE FOLLOWED IF NLMS GRANTED OBSERVER STATUS. HE NOTED THAT THERE WAS NO ROLE IN HRC RULES OF PROCEDURE WHICH COVERED RIGHTS OF OBSERVERS FROM NLMS. AUSTRIAN DEL SUGGESTED PROPER PROCEDURE WOULD BE FOR COMMISSION TO APPLY RULES 75 AND 76 WHICH COVER RIGHTS OF OBSERVERS FROM NGOS. IN CONVERSATION WITH HRC DIVISION DIRECTOR SCHREIBER AFTER MEETING HE NOTED THAT IF RULES 75 AND 76 WERE FOLLOWED, SEPARATE DECISION WOULD BE REQUIRED EACH TIME NLM OBSERVER DESIRED TO ADDRESS HRC.

ACTION REQUESTED: USDEL REQUESTS INSTRUCTIONS COVERING VOTING POSITION IF PLO REQUESTS PERMISSION TO SPEAK AND REQUEST IS SUBMITTED TO HRC FOR VOTE. SINCE PLO HAS NOW ACHIEVED OBSERVER STATUS, USDEL RECOMMENDS THAT WE NOT OBJECT IF PLO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OBSERVER REQUESTS PERMISSION TO SPEAK.COMMISSION HAS NOT YET ADOPTED AGENDA BUT LIKEIHOOD IS THAT FIRST SUBSTANTIVE ITEM WILL BE ITEM 4 OF PROVISIONAL AGENDA (QQUESTION OF VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN MIDDLE EAST OCCUPIED TERRITORIES). COMMENT: IN DISCUSSION WHICH TOOK PLACE ON QUESTION OF NLM OBSERVER STATUS SOME OF MORE EXTREME SUPPORTING STATEMENTS ASSERTED RIGHT OF HRC TO INVITE AS OBSERVERS ANY ORGANIZED GROUPS CONCERNED WITH HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS. THIS AUTHORITY

WAS CLAIMED TO BE INHERENT IN COMMISSION'S FUNCTIONS WITHOUT  
NEED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY SUPERIOR BODY. IT WAS TO COUNTER THIS  
EXTREME THAT SUREP HOFFMAN STRESSED THE NEED TO ADHERE TO  
GUIDELINES LAID DOWN BY GA OR OTHER SUPERIOR BODIES, HAVING  
IN MIND ARGUMENTS TO BE MADE IN THE EVENT OBSERVER STATUS FOR  
PRG WERE TO BE PROPOSED. WE HAVE AS YET HAD NO FIRM INDICATION  
THAT SUCH PROPOSAL WILL BE MADE, BUT USDEL RECALLS THAT IN  
RELATION TO PROVISIONAL AGENDA ITEM 6 DEALING WITH GROSS  
VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS ALLEGATIONS HAVE BEEN BROUGHT IN THE  
SUBCOMMISSION ON DISCRIMINATION AND MINORITIES AGAINST  
GOVERNMENT OF REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM. DALE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Concepts:** POLICIES, MEETING OBSERVERS, LIBERATION FRONTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 04 FEB 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**TAGS:** SHUM, ECOSOC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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